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NWT Labour Force Activity
- December 2014 -

In December 2014, Statistics Canada estimates that 21,200 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories representing an employment rate of 66.7% (Table 1). Nationally, Canada's employment rate was 61.5%.

Compared to last month, labour market activity was relatively unchanged. Employment rates have been declining over the fall months and remain similar to those seen in the latter half of 2010.

Although lower in 2014, monthly employment rates are following seasonal patterns similar to previous years. (Figure 1).

Table 1 Monthly Highlights
Northwest Territories, December 2014

	Dec-14	Nov-14	Dec-13
Population	31,800	31,800	31,900
Labour Force	22,900	22,900	24,400
Employed	21,200	21,300	22,400
Unemployed	1,700	1,700	2,000
Not in Labour Force	9,000	8,900	7,600
Participation (%)	72.0	72.0	76.5
Employment (%)	66.7	67.0	70.2
Unemployment (%)	7.4	7.4	8.2

Figure 1 Employment Rates
Northwest Territories, 2011-2014

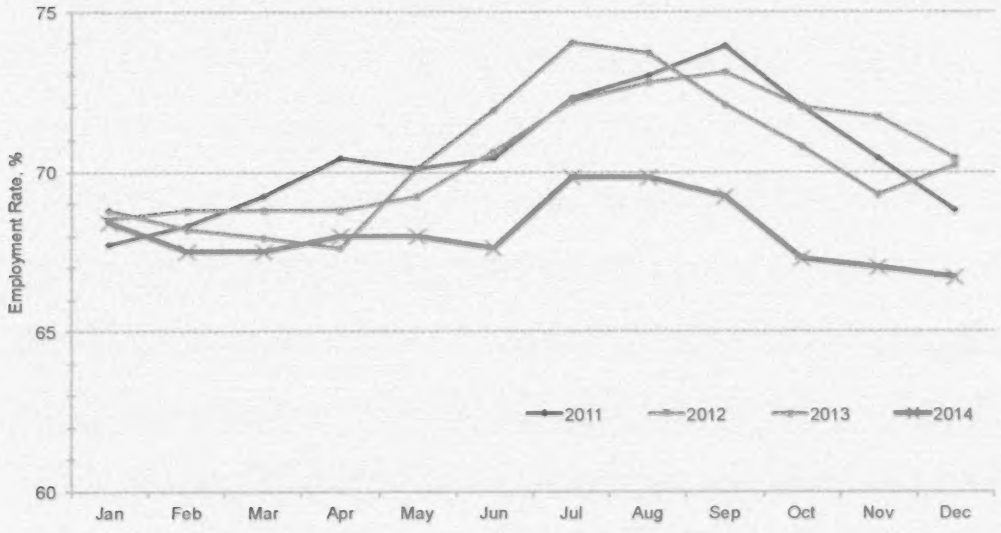

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Table 2 compares the number of employed persons and employment rate by key characteristics for December over the past three years. In December 2014, both the number of employed persons and the employment rate was lower than the previous two years. The decrease in the employment rate was highest for Aboriginal persons and those aged 15 - 24 years. The employment rate for males and females was similar in December 2014.

Table 2 ***Employment Rates by Key Characteristics Northwest Territories***

	Dec-14		Dec-13		Dec-12	
	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)
Northwest Territories	21,200	66.7	22,400	70.2	22,600	70.4
15-24 Yrs.	2,700	42.2	3,100	47.7	3,000	44.8
25 Yrs. & Over	18,500	72.5	19,200	75.3	19,600	77.2
Males	10,900	66.5	11,800	71.1	12,100	73.3
Females	10,300	66.5	10,600	69.3	10,500	67.7
Aboriginal	7,300	49.0	8,100	54.7	7,700	54.2
Non-Aboriginal	13,900	82.2	14,300	83.1	14,900	83.2
Yellowknife	12,200	79.7	12,700	81.9	12,600	80.3
Other	9,200	55.8	9,600	58.5	10,000	61.0

The number of employed persons decreased by 1,200 between December 2013 and December 2014. While there was an increase in self-employment, the public and private sectors experienced a decrease in the number of employed persons.

Table 3 ***Monthly and Yearly Change in Employment by Selected Characteristics Northwest Territories, October 2014***

				Nov 14 to Dec-14	Dec 13 to Dec-14
	Dec-14	Nov-14	Dec-13	Change (persons)	
Total Employment	21,200	21,300	22,400	(100)	(1,200)
Full-time	19,000	18,900	20,000	100	(1,000)
Part-time	2,200	2,300	2,400	(100)	(200)
Employees	19,300	19,500	20,800	(200)	(1,500)
Public	8,600	8,600	9,500	-	(900)
Private	10,700	10,900	11,200	(200)	(500)
Self-employment	1,800	1,800	1,600	-	200
Goods Producing	3,800	4,100	3,900	(300)	(100)
Service Producing	17,400	17,200	18,400	200	(1,000)

Table 4 presents historical labour force activity in the Northwest Territories.

Table 4 ***Labour Force Activity***
Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Employment Rate
Dec-14	31,800	22,900	21,200	1,700	9,000	72.0	7.4	66.7
Nov-14	31,800	22,900	21,300	1,700	8,900	72.0	7.4	67.0
Oct-14	31,800	23,100	21,400	1,700	8,700	72.6	7.4	67.3
Sep-14	31,800	23,800	22,000	1,800	8,060	74.8	7.6	69.2
Aug-14	31,800	24,100	22,200	1,900	7,700	75.8	7.9	69.8
Jul-14	31,800	24,400	22,200	2,200	7,400	76.7	9.0	69.8
Jun-14	31,800	23,900	21,500	2,300	8,000	75.2	9.6	67.6
May-14	31,900	23,800	21,700	2,200	8,100	74.6	9.2	68.0
Apr-14	31,900	23,800	21,700	2,100	8,200	74.6	8.8	68.0
Mar-14	32,000	23,500	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.4	8.1	67.5
Feb-14	32,000	23,400	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.1	8.1	67.5
Jan-14	32,000	23,800	21,900	1,900	8,200	74.4	8.0	68.4
Previous Years:								
Dec-13	31,900	24,400	22,400	2,000	7,600	76.5	8.2	70.2
Dec-12	32,100	24,400	22,600	1,800	7,700	76	7.4	70.4
Dec-11	32,100	24,000	22,100	1,900	8,100	74.8	7.9	68.8
Dec-10	32,200	23,600	21,700	1,800	8,700	73.3	7.6	67.4
Dec-09	32,100	22,000	20,700	1,300	10,100	68.5	5.9	64.5
Dec-08	32,100	23,500	22,200	1,200	8,600	73.2	5.1	69.2
Dec-07	31,900	24,100	22,700	1,400	7,800	75.5	5.8	71.2
Dec-06	31,400	24,300	22,800	1,500	7,100	77.4	6.2	72.6
Dec-05	31,300	23,600	22,400	1,200	7,700	75.4	5.1	71.6
Dec-04	31,100	23,600	22,200	1,400	7,400	75.9	5.9	71.4

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca or call (867) 873-7147.

Next Release: February 6, 2015